

## STREET GRADING DAMAGE AWARDS

Work of Appraisalment Will  
Begin in January.

### COMMISSION TO FIX AMOUNT

Appointments Not Yet Made—To Rectify Old-Time Abuses of Power.

Numerous applications for information on the subject at the District Building have elicited the explanation that it will probably be the middle of next January before the commission authorized by Congress to appraise the damages to property by the changes of grade in streets and alleys in connection with the new Union Station improvements will begin its work of appraisalment.

The act of Congress providing for the commission says the District Commissioners shall apply to the courts for its appointment within sixty days after the completion of the grading of any one of the streets or alleys or avenues affected by the station work.

While some work has been done on several of the streets and alleys whose grades will be lowered, it is not thought that such work will be completed on any one of them before October or November.

#### Notice of Awards.

After the appointment of the commission, its members shall give thirty days' notice of its purpose to award the damages. Thirty days more will be allowed the owners of the property affected to make application to the commission for a share in the damage money.

In connection with the appointment of this commission, two notable facts have come to light. One is that this will be the first time that either Congress or the District Commissioners thought it suitable to allow to property owners in the District compensation for damages to property as the result of changes in the grade of streets and alleys.

The other is that, while the members of the commission on appraisalment of damages in the square obtained for the House of Representatives office building got \$2,000 each, or about \$42 per day each, for the job, the commissioners who will appraise the Union Station damages will get only \$5 per day.

#### Old Losses.

Up to the time of the passage of this particular act of Congress, the District Commissioners were able to reduce the grade of any avenue or street thirty feet, if they so desired, obliging the residents to bring their houses down to the changed grade, and the compensation the citizens got was the pleasure of altering the location of their buildings.

If the reduction of grade caused a house to be damaged, it was all the same—no money was paid to the owner, and the compensation for the loss and trouble occasioned the owner. Now, there is no general law covering the award of damages for grade reduction. This particular act of Congress is only a passing exception to the still prevalent rule.

#### Remedy Probable.

It is thought that some action ought to be taken to remedy such a condition of affairs. It is argued that, if Congress saw the justice of allowing damages for the grade changes in connection with the station work, it could also be brought to see the reason for general legislation on the matter in the District. The fact that the members of the House of Representatives office site commission got \$42 per day each for their services, while the commissioners on damages in connection with the station changes will get only \$5 per day each is explained by the consideration that the station commissioners had their compensation fixed by Congress, while the office site commissioners had theirs determined by the District Supreme Court.

The court, it is pointed out, knows the great difficulty of such appraisalment and fixes the compensation so high that the best men will undertake the work. Congress, for instance, paid the appraisers of damages on the Library of Congress site only \$2 a day. Such a policy, say business men of the city, is a mistake.

## ONE MAN SHOT DEAD IN BLUE LAW RIOT

Crusade in Pittsburg Ends in a Bloody Affray at a Hearing Before an Alderman.

PITTSBURG, Aug. 31.—As a result of the "blue law" crusade against local druggists and merchants, started by the ministers a short time ago, one man was shot and instantly killed and half a dozen others seriously injured during a riot here.

The dead man is Harry D. Knox, who was shot through the breast by Nelson A. Starkey, a blue law detective. Starkey himself was set upon by the crowd and beaten in a serious manner with blackjacks and clubs.

P. T. Gamble, superintendent of the Sabbath Observance Association, and Detective Harry Starkey were also badly beaten. Several of the participants in the riot were shot by the detectives, one man who was apitied away being shot through the breast and probably fatally wounded.

The riot started at the close of a hearing of the blue law detectives on a perjury charge before Alderman Walter Wadsworth in Allegheny. A crowd which numbered nearly 1,000 persons attacked the crusaders with blackjacks, clubs and stones as they emerged from the office. The detectives opened fire on the crowd with revolvers.

Superintendent Gamble, after being placed under arrest, escaped from the officers, and is now a fugitive.

### LONG TARGET PRACTICE FOR THE SQUADRON

VINEYARD HAVEN, Mass., Aug. 31.—Capt. R. B. Bradford of the Illinois, who is in charge of the North Atlantic battleship squadron at Menemsha Light, said today that as soon as the supply ship arrives there from New York the squadron will sail to the south side of Martha's Vineyard, between No Man's Land and Nantucket, for target practice, where the vessels will probably remain about one month.

While waiting for supplies, torpedo practice will be carried on at Menemsha Light, as the waters are of the most favorable depth. The target practice will consist of long range practice, practice at anchor, practice under way, practice at night, practice in heavy sea when the ships are rolling, and practice under searchlight.

## Cleaned Out the Rats With Force of Ferrets

Department of Agriculture Officers and Clerks  
No Longer Worried by Swarms of Pests  
Playing "Tag" in Work Hours.

Rats no longer bother the Department of Agriculture. The official rat "catcher" went to work a few weeks ago, when the department was overrun with members of the rodent tribe, and their day is now passed. Edgar Barclay, Jr., is responsible. He took twelve ferrets to the Agricultural Building, let them loose, and went away. Yesterday he went to the department, collected his pets and departed.

There was not a rat to be seen nor to be heard.

When Mr. Barclay undertook the job of "killing" the department of rats, the building was overrun with the pest almost rebelled against work, and the men did their utmost to "stamp" out the evil. It was of no avail.

#### Occupied Corridor.

The rats continued to run up and down the corridors, into the different offices, and even intruded upon the privacy of the Secretary of the department.

Chief Clerk Hills, of the publication division, did not fancy the way in which the rats were playing "tag" with his clerks, and made a vigorous protest to the Secretary. The latter thought the "game" had been played to the limit, and called for volunteers to get rid of the pest.

#### Made Good.

Mr. Barclay was pressed into service. He has been in the "rat killing" business for nearly ten months. He has been engaged by the various departments of the Government, and by private concerns, and at all times made good. Secretary Wilson decided that Barclay was man enough to do the business, and he was engaged.

Fifteen days ago he reported for duty with his twelve ferrets. Yesterday he took his ferrets away, and today there is no fear and trembling on the part of the clerks. The rats have disappeared—the ferrets alone can tell where.

## BELIEVE IT BIG PAY WITH A LITTLE WORK

Laymen's View of Service in Positions Under the Government—Some Amusing Department Incidents.

One reason that Government places, from ambassadorships to foreign courts down to janitors in public buildings, are so greatly coveted is that the notion seems to have taken deep root in the popular mind that they do not involve a large amount of work. In fact, "work" is a relative term.

A woman in Louisville wrote a vicious letter to the Postoffice Department here at the opening of the McKinley Administration against the protection of letter carriers by the civil service law. She said that it was all wrong; that these places now ought to go to Republicans, and that the Democrats who had employed them for the last four years should "be made to go to work for a living."

Just what her idea of work is, many overburdened letter carriers might like to inquire, but evidently she thought it something different altogether from walking from house to house with the mail.

#### Same in Porto Rico.

This notion is not confined to the United States. In the days of the Spanish regime in Porto Rico, a worn-out Washington clerk went one winter to that island for his health, and there fell under the treatment of a local physician.

After several visits, the information was finally imparted that the American doctors had thought the young man run down from "overwork." The Porto Rican physician, who had treated many Spanish officials, almost jumped out of his chair, saying that he had understood that the station commissioner had their compensation fixed by Congress, while the office site commissioners had theirs determined by the District Supreme Court.

The court, it is pointed out, knows the great difficulty of such appraisalment and fixes the compensation so high that the best men will undertake the work. Congress, for instance, paid the appraisers of damages on the Library of Congress site only \$2 a day. Such a policy, say business men of the city, is a mistake.

## "BACK PRINTERS" WANT INCREASE IN WAGES

Said to Be Dissatisfaction Because "Face Printers" Receive Higher Pay From the Government.

The recent demand of the "back printers" for pay equaling that of the "face printers" has been referred to Captain Meredith of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

The matter was referred to Captain Meredith during his stay in New York, whence he returned last evening. Until he receives the communication of the Treasury Department he will not speak for publication, save that he will do the best he can for the "back printers."

Under the present scale the "back printers" receive from 15 to 25 per cent less pay for their work than do the "face printers." The difference is accounted for by the statement that it takes better and more skillful laborers to do the delicate face work. The best available workmen are selected for the finer work, and consequently, while a "face printer" often makes \$6 a day, a "back printer" is paid by the thousand, rarely makes more than \$4.50 a day.

The "back printers" claim that their work is just as difficult, requires just as much skill, and should be paid for on the same scale as that of the "face printers."

According to the law, the various employees of a Government bureau may not be paid at a higher rate than the men who have been elsewhere on similar work, but in the case of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing such a comparison is difficult. This bureau is equally the largest establishment of its kind in the world, and the American Bank Note Company, the nearest rival, is a comparatively small affair. The wages at the bureau are practically the same as those of the Bank Note Company.

Should the law be violated and the pay of the "back printers" be increased, it is doubtful whether the new pay roll will meet the approval of the Comptroller of the Treasury.

### KUBELIK MAY BRING HIS TWINS TO AMERICA

LONDON, Aug. 31.—It is reported that Jan Kubelik, the violinist, has received an offer of \$40,000 in addition to his expenses for a tour of 100 nights in the United States.

One stipulation of the agreement is said to be that he must be accompanied by the twins born to him some time ago. It is understood that Kubelik is inclined to undertake the American tour, but he certainly will not be influenced by the condition that the twins accompany him. He is so devoted to them that he would not leave them behind. He would undoubtedly spin a suggestion to make money by exhibiting them.

#### SNOWFALL IN MINNESOTA.

DULUTH, Minn., Aug. 31.—Light snow fell at Virginia yesterday. Crops, flowers and garden produce were damaged. Ice frosts are reported from other Western Mesaba range points.

This new information had disarranged his diagnosis of the case.

Some years ago there was an official here of considerable circumstance and dignity, who drew a good salary, but whose success in avoiding toll had long been the subject of much good-natured comment on the part of his associates. This man had a son who became very restive from being obliged to attend school, and eager to start out in a position of his own.

#### Wanted the Position.

One day while visiting the office in his father's absence, some of the other clerks, on mischief bent, called his attention to a \$1,000 vacancy, then outside the civil service, which it was suggested that he might secure through his father's ever-potent influence.

The youth grasped the proposal with tremendous enthusiasm, and began to discuss in detail every arrangement for carrying out the plan. He was so much assured as if the office had actually been awarded to him. He decided how he would come and go, how he would spend his vacations, and where he would hang his hat.

Finally it occurred to him, after everything else had been disposed of, to make this inquiry: "What should I have to do? What would my work be here?"

These questions naturally gave some pause to the clerks, who had been urging the plan with such enthusiasm. Finally one of them, who was something of a wag, replied with great gravity: "You could watch your father, and any time that he found anything to do you could help him."

The young man was not employed, but this was a fair statement of what his duties would have been.

## COMBINE OF CHURCHES UNDER WAY IN KANSAS

Movement on Foot for All Denominations to Work Together—Called Federation of Churches.

TOPEKA, Kan., Aug. 31.—The Rev. Fred Greer, pastor of a Congregational church at Stockton, Kan., has issued an appeal to all churches in this State to join him in the organization of a great religious combination. The Rev. Mr. Greer calls his new organization the Federation of Churches and Christian Workers of Kansas.

Already a score of prominent ministers, representing all the denominations, have joined in the movement and have declared against creed and denomination and in favor of a broad and liberal Christianity.

The chief aim is to supply small towns with an able minister and to prevent overlapping the support of two church organizations when one will answer the purpose.

The Rev. Mr. Greer says Kansas will embrace his plan and that the Christian Churches of other States will follow.

### DISTURBS THEIR REST AT UNEARTHLY HOUR OF 7

Arraigned in Court for Disturbing His Rich Neighbors' Slumber.

#### Wants Rubber Nails.

BALTIMORE, Aug. 31.—Christopher C. Watts, a carpenter, whom S. Gross Horwitz and mother, Mrs. Louise Gross Horwitz, seek to enjoin from working in his shop "at the unseemly hour of 7 o'clock, and thus disturbing slumber," has filed his answer in the circuit court.

Watts confesses to driving ordinary nails before 10 a. m., "as your defendant has not been able up to the present time to obtain rubber nails or a rubber hammer." He denied making such noises as to "disturb their refreshing and necessary afternoon slumbers after a night of social entertainment."

This answer also advises the complainants to "follow more closely the maxim that has been handed down to us by the wisdom and experience of ages and taught to us in youth, that 'Early to bed and early to rise makes us healthy, wealthy and wise.'"

### INDIANS GO DEFIANTLY TO DEATH IN MEXICO

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 31.—The war department has been advised that fourteen Yaqui Indians implicated in the murder of three well known young men of Guaymas have been executed.

## STEERING GAME ANTICIPATED

In Ecuador They Never  
Bother Ballot Boxes.

### JUST CHANGE THE FIGURES

Thousands of People Swear They Voted  
for One Man, But Another  
Won—Revolution.

CITY OF MEXICO, Aug. 31.—These are days of tempest in Ecuador. Revolutionary agitation has succeeded the calm which followed the accession of Gen. Leonidas Plaza to the Presidency. The partisans of Lizardo Garcia, the adversary of Plaza in the contest for power, accuse the new chief magistrate of perfidy and plan to overthrow him by revolution.

Revolts have occurred in four different provinces. The insurgents, although few in number, have successfully resisted the federal troops. Desertions are occurring in the northern provinces with extraordinary frequency.

They are not confined to single individuals, but embrace from twenty-five to fifty soldiers at a time. As a rule the deserters leave the army in bodies sufficiently strong enough to resist all attempts of the authorities to bring them back.

#### Martial Law.

Martial law is paramount in six provinces. It is certain to be established throughout the republic.

Lizardo Garcia was the choice of the people for the Presidency, but the government brought this choice to naught. Under the administration of Gen. Eloy Alfaro, President during the last term, concessions were granted to foreign corporations to build railroads and improve harbors, and loans were negotiated with foreign countries to enable the government to pay their contractors.

Corruption was involved in all this, and President Alfaro, the chief beneficiary, found it necessary to have a reliable friend to succeed him in the Presidency, and he therefore selected General Plaza, a candidate against Garcia. He instructed soldiers to police to interfere with the campaign of Garcia. Secret agents spied upon Garcia partisans and names of voters for Plaza and his supporters were given to officials with the object of having these voters kept away from the polls.

#### Made Figures.

Government funds were placed at the disposal of Plaza's managers for corruption. Officers of the election perpetrated frauds in the most flagrant manner, and on election day all the powers of the government were exerted in behalf of Leonidas Plaza, and he was declared elected. Garcia stood nowhere.

When the returns were published the people were filled with indignation. They put in circulation a sheet entitled "For History," in which they denounced the government.

It was signed by 12,000 citizens of Quito, who declared that they voted for Garcia, although the returns showed only 4,000 votes cast in that city for Garcia against 4,000 for Plaza.

More than 6,000 citizens of Guayaquil signed the sheet declaring that they had voted for Garcia, and the government recorded only 300 for Garcia, and against 8,500 for Plaza.

Without doubt the "For History" sheet showed 45,000 votes for Garcia against 25,000 for Plaza, but the official report gave only 6,000 for Garcia and over 64,000 for Plaza.

#### In Jail.

When the leaf appeared, the government was disconcerted, but took no steps to suppress it. It was not prepared to commence hostilities upon the efforts of the people.

President Alfaro commenced to organize the army, while the Garciaists prepared for conflict with the government.

The Garciaists demanded a proper investigation of the charges in "For History," and threatened to precipitate revolt, if Plaza was inaugurated.

In reply to the threats and demands Alfaro appointed General Plaza, commander-in-chief of the provinces of Esmeraldas, Manabí, Guayas, El Oro y Los Rios, and ordered Commandante Rivadeneira, Garcia's leader, Quito, imprisoned with the intention of forcing the surrender of the original of the "For History" sheet.

But the Garciaists were not intimidated. Even the threat of the minister of the interior, the arrest of all the citizens of Quito who signed the offending sheet had no effect.

The release of Commandante Rivadeneira was demanded, and the insurance broke out in the four northern provinces. It has increased in activity ever since.

The Garciaists, though few in number, are in rebellion everywhere in Ecuador. Many circumstances have recently combined to favor them. Chief of these is the inability of the government to fulfill its obligations to foreign contractors and the envy it has stirred up among Colombian liberal revolutionists by banishing their agents.

#### Without Money.

The government has failed to negotiate a loan from Chile. It, therefore, can not satisfy the contractors and seems unable to hold the army at present required to quell the insurgents.

The Colombian liberals are assisting the insurgents and are causing the federal soldiers to desert in the northern provinces.

President Plaza, by ordering the Center of Protection of Colombia Federation to leave Ecuador brought about the alliance of Garciaists with the Colombian forces. This may finally prove fatal to his government.

Garcia refuses to countenance the revolts made in his behalf, but, nevertheless, he is expected to issue a pronouncement in favor of revolution.

All that the conditions in Ecuador lack to become like those which existed in Colombia until lately is a word from Garcia in favor of armed hostility to the government. It is believed that he has only been waiting to purchase some vessels and arms and ammunition in Europe to give the word.

### CABLE COMPANY FORMS TO LAY ISLAND LINE

A group of German and Dutch capitalists, bankers and business men, says Consul General Guenther, reporting from Frankfurt, Germany, have formed a joint stock company for the purpose of constructing and operating a new ocean telegraph line, the cables of which will connect the Island of Cebu (Dutch East Indies) with the Island of Yap, whence one cable will reach Shanghai, the other the Island of Guam, where it communicates with the Pacific cable of the Commercial Cable Company.

# THE TIMES' \$2,500 ELECTION CONTEST

What Will Be the Combined Popular Vote for the Republican  
and Democratic Candidates for President in November?

One Thousand Dollars in Gold  
awarded to the contestant sending in  
the closest estimate.

THIRTEENTH PRIZE "BULLY" THE ENGLISH BULL TERRIER MASCOT

Two More  
Months to Run  
Thirty-Nine  
Cash Prizes

## THE PRIZES

For the Nearest Correct Estimates:

First Prize, \$1,000 in Gold  
Thirteenth Prize, "Bully," an English Bull Terrier,

Secured expressly for this contest by Edw. S. Schmid, Proprietor of the Bird and Pet Animal Store, 712 Twelfth Street northwest.

Second Prize.....	\$500.00	Eighth to Tenth Prizes, each.....	\$25.00
Third Prize.....	200.00	Eleventh to Fourteenth Prizes, each.....	20.00
Fourth and Fifth Prizes, each.....	100.00	Fifteenth to Nineteenth Prizes, each.....	15.00
Sixth Prize.....	50.00	Twentieth to Twenty-fourth Prizes, each.....	10.00
Seventh Prize.....	25.00	Twenty-fifth to Forty-fourth Prizes, each.....	5.00

### Special Prizes.

A Special Prize, as detailed below, will be awarded to the winner of the First Prize of \$1,000 in accordance with the time his estimate was filed at The Times office.

May 1 and June 1.....	\$100.00	July 1 and August 1.....	\$25.00
June 1 and July 1.....	50.00	August 1 and September 1.....	25.00
September 1 to October 1.....	10.00		

## How to Win \$1,000

How many votes will be cast for the Republican and Democratic candidates for President in November next? To those who can answer this question the nearest correctly The Times will give \$2,500 in cash, divided into forty prizes as enumerated in the accompanying list of awards. In addition to the prizes for the nearest correct estimates a special prize is offered for submitting the best estimate early, its value depending upon the month such estimate is received.

Should it be found that the best estimate was received in May, the winner of the first prize will receive \$1,000; in June, \$1,000; in July, \$1,000, and so on until November, when there will be no special prize in addition to the first prize of \$1,000.

This contest also has its mascot, an English Bull Terrier, "Bully," which will be awarded to the contestant sending in the thirteenth nearest correct estimate.

Estimates are to be made on the combined popular vote of the candidates of the Democratic and Republican parties only. To assist contestants with their estimates The Times gives the popular vote for the candidates of the last six elections. To make these statistics interesting The Times has given the vote of each candidate separately before totalizing the two, but in submitting estimates contestants must give only what in their judgment will be the total, or combined, vote for both candidates. The first prize of \$1,000 will be awarded for the nearest correct estimate; the second prize for the next nearest, and so on. All estimates must be submitted on the blanks provided in this advertisement or special blanks which The Times will furnish on request. All estimates must be written with ink, and without erasure of any kind. If it is necessary to make any alteration in an estimate use another blank.

A positive guarantee is given that this contest is not associated with any syndicate offering prizes through a large number of papers or with any other paper. It is an independent contest, being conducted wholly by The Times and for the benefit of readers of The Times solely.

### Put Estimates in These Spaces:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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To the Washington Times Co., I send..... for subscription to the..... (Name of paper).....  
I send..... estimates on the combined Republican and Democratic vote for President.....

Date.....  
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Certified.....

Note no entries in these spaces.

Address Estimates and Letters to  
Contest Editor, Times Office  
Tenth and D Streets, Washington, D. C.

### VOTE OF THE LAST SIX ELECTIONS.

1880—Garfield, 4,454,416; Hancock, 4,444,932; combined, 8,899,348.  
1884—Cleveland, 4,874,986; Blaine, 4,851,981; combined, 9,726,967.  
1888—Harrison, 5,439,833; Cleveland, 5,540,309; combined, 10,980,142.

1892—Cleveland, 5,554,437; Harrison, 5,115,287; combined, 10,669,724.  
1896—McKinley, 7,102,772; Bryan, 6,273,624; combined, 13,376,396.  
1900—McKinley, 7,219,191; Bryan, 6,357,054; combined, 13,576,245.

Total increase in population in United States past four years, based on increase as shown by census from 1880 to 1900, 5,082,580.  
Increase in number of votes for four years (estimated), 1,016,516.  
In case of a tie for any one prize, it will be divided.